

MICHIGAN AERONAUTICS COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting
Mt. Pleasant, Michigan
September 17, 2008

Pursuant to Section 31 of Act 327 of the Public Acts of 1945, the Commissioners of the Michigan Aeronautics Commission (MAC), created by said act, met in the Soaring Eagle Conference Center, 6800 Soaring Eagle Boulevard, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858 on Wednesday, September 17, 2008, commencing at the hour of approximately 10:00 a.m.

Members Present

Joyce Woods, Chair
Sidney Adams, Jr., Vice Chair
James Collins, Commissioner
Terry Everman, Commissioner
J. William Prochazka, Commissioner
Leon Hank, Designee – MDOT
Daniel Atkinson, Designee – MSP
Dennis Fedewa, Designee – MDNR
Robert Johnston, Designee – DMVA
Rob Abent, MAC Commission Director

Staff

Barbara Burris, Executive Division
Rick Hammond, Airports Division
Pauline Misjak, Aviation Services
David Baker, Airports Division
Gerry Edwards, Aviation Services
Mark Noel, Airports Division
Ralph Sims, Aviation Services Division
Tara Ball, Aviation Services Division
Heather Clark, Executive Division
Lorraine White, Executive Division

Members Absent

No Members Absent

Also Present

Bill Blake, AOPA Regional Representative
Matthew J. Thys, FAA
Alan and Ellen Engler, Huron County
Airport
Frank Thorman, DuPont-Lapeer Airport
Susy Avery, Wayne County Airport
Authority
Phil Johnson, Gerald R. Ford International
Airport
Cliff Moshoginis, Kalamazoo/Battle Creek
International Airport
Steve Wellman, Jackson County Airport
Kent Maurer, Jackson County – Reynolds
Field Airport
Billi McRoberts, Alpena County Regional
Airport

A list of all others present is attached to the official minutes.

I. OPENING REMARKS

The September 17, 2008, Aeronautics Commission meeting was called to order by Chair Joyce Woods at 10:00 a.m. This meeting was hosted by the Michigan Association of Airport Airports (MAAE). She thanked the MAAE Board for the welcoming the Commission and organizing the conference. There are several guests that were recognized, Bill Blake from the AOPA, several staff from the Bureau of Aeronautics and Freight Services. A special guest was introduced, Kay Chamberlain, who was a member of the MAC from 1977 to 1984. She is here with her son Paul, who is a circuit judge in Mt. Pleasant. Ms. Chamberlain was allowed to take the floor. She was the first woman on the Aeronautics Commission and perhaps one of the first women in the state to be appointed to the Commission.

Ms. Chamberlain welcomed the members of the Commission to Mt. Pleasant, she is delighted that both groups are there. She asked for airport managers who remembered her to reintroduce themselves to her after the meeting. Due to health reasons, she doesn't travel much. She is very pleased to be a guest at the meeting.

The Chair also thanked all the consultants for their support and sponsorship of the MAAE conference, in particular Mead and Hunt who sponsored the dinner the night before.

For the benefit of the audience, she asked the Commissioners to proceed with introductions. Terry Everman, Commissioner from Flushing, MI, based out of Flint-Bishop Airport; Bill Prochazka, representing the Battle Creek area; Jim Collins of Marquette; Sid Adams, Vice Chair, from Battle Creek; Rob Abent, Commission Director, MDOT; and Joyce Woods, Chair, appointed to the Commission as a private pilot; Leon Hank, Chief Administrator of MDOT, representing Director Kirk Steudle; Dennis Fedewa, Chief Administrative Officer for the DNR, representing Director Rebecca Humphries; Dan Atkinson, Captain for the Michigan State Police, representing Peter Munoz; Bob Johnston, Commander of the Michigan Air National Guard, representing Adjutant General Tom Collins; David Brickey, Office of the Attorney General; and Barbara Burris, Assistant to the Aeronautics Commission.

The Chair confirmed that all Commissioners were present. She proceeded to the first order of business.

MAC Awards of Excellence

The Chair mentioned that each year, we present the MAC Award of excellence to one individual and one group for their outstanding contributions to aviation over the year, a tradition which began in 1990.

The Chair continued, saying that today we would like to recognize Ms. Susy Heintz Avery. She joined the Director and the Chair at the front of the room.

Director Abent noted that these prestigious awards are awarded only once per year to one individual and one group who has demonstrated an exceptional advocacy on behalf of aviation. Susy Heintz Avery is the Director of the State Government Relations at Detroit Metro Airport but has been much more than that to the Aeronautics Commission and to the Bureau of Aeronautics and Freight Services. This was a very difficult legislative year. She was the bureau's eyes and ears on the ground in the Legislature, dispensing daily updates while advocating for aviation interests statewide and working diligently with Legislators on behalf of

aviation. He thanked Ms. Avery for her efforts.

The Chair read the inscription from the plaque: “In recognition of your enthusiastic advocacy on behalf of aviation in Michigan and your commitment to the enhancement of resources in partnership with the Michigan Aeronautics Commission.”

Ms. Avery thanked the Commission. She is very gratified to receive the award, particularly on the date being given, because this morning at 5:10 a.m., a Spirit Flight arrived from Las Vegas, and it was the first flight into the new terminal that opened just this morning, on time and on budget. She thanked the Commissioners for support given to the project. (Applause.)

Director Abent announced that the second MAC award will be presented to an organization that is second to none in aviation: The Kalamazoo Air Zoo. The Air Zoo is not only a national leader in the preservation of aviation artifacts; they are also national leaders in education and entertainment. This year, they hosted our annual Teachers Conference at the Air Zoo, which was a huge success. He urged the audience to take a trip there, if they haven’t done so already. The Kalamazoo Air Zoo exemplifies the great aviation tradition. He called on Bob Ellis to join the Chair and himself at the front of the room.

The Chair read the inscription from the plaque: “In recognition of the Kalamazoo Air Zoo for substantial contributions to aviation in Michigan, including preservation of historic artifacts, aviation education and community service. The Air Zoo has enriched and enhanced the great aviation tradition in Michigan.” (Applause.)

Invited to comment, Mr. Ellis indicated he was honored and surprised by the wonderful recognition of the Air Zoo. On behalf of the air Zoo, he graciously accepted the plaque. He noted that the mission of the Air Zoo is to preserve the legacy of flight for future generations and to make a positive change in people’s lives. He thanked the members of the Commission for its most prestigious award.

Turning to the business of the Commission, the Chair directed the members to Exhibit A in their notebooks, the minutes of the meeting held July 30, 2008.

The Chair entertained a motion for approval of the minutes of the July 30, 2008 meeting as written.

Whereupon, it was moved by Commissioner Adams, with support from Commissioner Prochazka, to approve the minutes of the July 30, 2008, as transcribed. By unanimous voice vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

The Chair called on Dave Baker, Funding Manager, Airports Division, to present the 16 projects for funding approval. Sixteen transfers are presented for consideration.

Airport Name and Associated City/County	Project Description	Federal \$	State \$	Local \$	Total \$
W.K. Kellogg Airport Battle Creek	Wetland mitigation credit bank purchase (14.055 acres) for parallel runway 5/23	288,000	63,000	9,000	360,000
W.K. Kellogg Airport Battle Creek	Supplemental transfer for Operations/Maintenance Facility	638,760	16,809	0	655,569
Southwest Michigan Regional Airport Benton Harbor	Phased extension of runway 9/27 (land acquisition, clearing, Sand Creek culvert, fencing)	3,301,240	86,875	86,875	3,474,990
Clare Municipal Airport Clare	Supplemental for terminal fencing, runway 4 threshold relocation, Crack Sealing	73,600	16,100	2,300	92,000
Coleman A. Young Municipal Airport Detroit	MSP hanger rehabilitation	0	225,000	25,000	250,000
Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport Detroit	Reconstruction of Taxiway "K" parts 2 & 3	1,607,960	0	535,986	2,143,946
Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport Detroit	Design of Runway 9L/27R reconstruction	2,250,000	0	750,000	3,000,000
Abrams Municipal Airport Grand Ledge	Crack Sealing and Paint Marking	10,450	275	275	11,000
Houghton County Memorial Hospital Hancock	Supplemental transfer to land acquisition reimbursement; ARFF vehicle (specs)	13,387	0	47,642	61,029
Hillsdale Municipal Airport Hillsdale	Runway 10/28 obstruction clearing and stream relocation	1,200,000	262,500	37,500	1,500,000
Price's Airport Linden	Terminal building construction	0	95,000	5,000	100,000
Owosso Community Airport Owosso	Supplemental for SRE plow truck	38,760	1,020	1,020	40,800
Oakland County International Airport Pontiac	Final phase for runway 9R/27L safety area improvements	1,400,000	36,842	38,842	1,475,684
St. Clair County International Airport Port Huron	Supplemental transfer for approach clearing for runway 4 and 10	95,000	2,500	2,500	100,000
Saginaw County H.W. Browne Airport Saginaw	Beacon and lighted windcone installation	57,475	1,512	1,513	60,500
Chippewa County International Airport Sault Ste. Marie	Interior/Exterior Improvements for Hangars 151 and 155 (2008 Military Airport Program)	890,000	23,421	23,421	936,842

As no questions were raised on the 16 projects, the Chair entertained a motion for approval of the projects.

It was moved by Commissioner Everman, with support from Commissioner Collins, to approve the 16 projects as presented. By unanimous voice vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

Mr. Baker continued with the six supplemental transfers approved since the July 30, 2008 meeting:

Roben-Hood Airport, Big Rapids: An increase in federal/state/local funds of four (4) percent has been approved to augment the funds needed to fully fund the project, consisting of construction of hangar taxilanes and installation of sanitary and water service lines. The original project cost of \$187,459 has been increased by \$7,541, thereby increasing the project cost to \$538,713.

Boise Blanc Island, Boise Blanc: An increase in funds of eleven (11) percent in federal/state/local funds has been approved to provide the funding needed for the Phase II archeological survey. The original project cost of \$115,000 has been increased by \$12,600 thereby increasing the project cost to \$127,600.

Charlotte, Fitch H. Beach Municipal: An increase of fifteen (15) percent in federal/state/local funds has been approved to supplement the original transfer for various projects, including but not limited to, crack sealing, paint marking, land acquisition for runway 20 RPZ, etc. The original project cost of \$193,569 has been increased by \$29,035, thereby raising the total project cost to \$222,694.

Greenville, Greenville Municipal: An increase of fifteen (15) percent in federal/state/local funds has been approved to supplement the funds needed for construction of an electrical vault. Bids taken on August 1, 2008 by MDOT were higher than anticipated. The original project cost of \$168,841 has been increased by \$25,326 thereby increasing the total project cost to \$194,167.

Holland, Tulip City: An increase of fifteen (15) percent in federal/state/local funds has been approved to supplement the original transfer for the airport layout plan. The sponsor has also requested that a master plan be done as part of the airport layout plan. The original project cost of \$200,000 has been increased by \$30,000 making the new total \$230,000.

Kincheloe, Chippewa County International: A 10.1 percent increase in federal/sate/local funds has been approved to supplement the original transfer for costs associated with the rehabilitation of taxiways E & C, including lighting, and electrical vault improvements. The original project cost of \$1,245,716 has been increased by \$126,171 thereby ringing the total project cost to \$1,371,887.

No questions were raised on the supplemental requests. The Chair thanked Mr. Baker for his report.

Director Abent interjected that some projects impact on more than aviation. One project just approved at the Coleman A. Young Municipal Airport which allows the Michigan State Police to

house helicopter and aid in law enforcement in all of southeast Michigan. This relatively low-cost endeavor will have a huge impact in the southeast Michigan area. He noted that Commissioner Atkinson has been intimately involved in the project and has arranged a rather unique agreement between the Department of Transportation and the city of Detroit, who will lease the facility to the Detroit Police department for use by the Michigan State Police.

The Chair opened the floor for comments from the public.

She recognized Mr. Peter Bowers, President of Waco Classic in Battle Creek invited to speak by Commissioner Adams.

Mr. Bowers introduced himself as the new owner of Waco Classic Aircraft in Battle Creek and Centennial Aircraft Services, the FBO. He is a Kalamazoo native, as opposed to the previous owner, who lived out of state. He stressed the importance of his local knowledge to the endeavor in Battle Creek and he hopes for a long and successful future in Battle Creek in selling aircraft worldwide. He thanked Commissioner Adams and the members of the Commission for their support of Waco Classic.

The Chair thanked Mr. Bowers and praised his efforts (in spite of the current state of operations in Michigan). She called on Lee Scherwitz, Airport Manager, Southwest Michigan Airport.

Mr. Scherwitz provided an update on the project at Southwest Michigan Regional. Ground is being broken on a project initiated over 3 years ago when safety issues were identified. He noted that Stephanie Ward, P.E., began her engineering career on the project, working for Whitworth-Borta, and is still with the project. Mr. Scherwitz thanked the Commissioners, the Bureau of Aeronautics, and the FAA for taking the airport into the future. He itemized the challenges that were surmounted along the way-myriad issues that had to be overcome. He thanked the staff of the bureau for their tremendous efforts to work through this process, especially Molly Lamrouex, who worked to keep the project moving. (Applause.)

The Chair thanked Mr. Scherwitz and welcomed the next speaker.

Mr. Dennis Norton, President of the Michigan Aerospace Foundation – the fund-raising arm for the reconstruction of the Yankee Air Museum – reported that the foundation has \$5.5 million committed in fund raising and support for the rebuilding of the museum. In addition, over \$900,000 in private funds have been raised toward the construction at Willow Run Airport. The first building on the new site will open this fall. He thanked the Commission for their past and present support. (Applause.)

The Chair expressed her desire to see the project to fruition.

As there was no further public comment, the Chair called on Director Abent for this Director's report.

Director Abent advised that there was one other unique project on the transfer list, the terminal facility of Linden-Price Airport. He noted that Chair Woods had been based at Price's Airport

for many years; that having left the airport, a terminal is now being constructed. The Chair herself shared anecdotal stories about the airport and commended the construction of the new facility.

With respect to recent and upcoming events, the Director reported that the Transportation Funding Task Force (TF2) have taken a careful look at the full spectrum of transportation funding, including aviation, and are charged by the Governor and the legislature with making a recommendation to them in preliminary form at the end of October, and in final form in April as to how to enhance/change the cost of the transportation spectrum in Michigan. He cited the dates and locations for past and future meetings. He recognized two of the key members on the task force in attendance, Mr. Roger Salo of the MASCO Corporation and Bill Gehman, Chairman of the citizens Advisory Committee on Aviation. Reports issued by the committee can be accessed through the MDOT website.

Mr. Abent mentioned a recent Michigan Congressional Briefing, in conjunction with the FAA, which was held on September 15.

The Aeronautics building renovation is ahead of schedule and under budget. This event will result in a no-cost transaction to the Aeronautics Fund, as the building will be shared with tenants (Freight Division staff) and produce revenue for the State Aeronautics fund. Director Abent praised the oversight of Ms. Bobbie Tisdale, Director of Department Services, who, along with her staff, kept the project on schedule.

The Director noted two recent reappointments from the Governor; that of Commissioners Sidney Adams and James Collins, whose terms have been extended through 2011. (Applause.)

The Director shared a slide of the newest staff person at the bureau, Ms. Tara Ball, who has been hired to perform the duties of dispatcher with the Air Transport Section. Tara comes to the bureau by way of the Capital City International Airport and is an accomplished pilot

The Director also shared a slide of Matt Brinker and asked Pauline Misjak, Aviation Services Administrator, to join him at the podium.

Ms. Misjak characterized Mr., Brinker as a real asset to the bureau for the past ten years – someone who takes hold of a task for an assignment and runs with it. Mr. Brinker has been intimately involved with the TF2 and working with airports on air service programs.

Ms. Misjak read from a letter signed by MDOT Director Kirk Steudle:

Thank you for your dedication and continuous commitment to the Michigan Department of Transportation and its mission and values: quality, teamwork, customer orientation integrity and pride. You have been a valuable asset to MDOT, and we thank you for your 10 years of service to the state.

Ms. Misjak also presented a 10-year Service Award to Mr. Brinker from Governor Granholm and Director Steudle, which reads: “In deep appreciation and gratitude for ten years of valuable

service to the State of Michigan and its customers.” (Applause.)

Continuing with his report, Director Abent reported that Barbara Burris, who has served as the Executive Assistant to the Commission for over 13 years will be transitioning to a new position as an analyst. She will stay at Aeronautics but will move to the Airports Division and engage in new and exciting career challenges. The Director invited the Commissioners the opportunity to recognize and publicly thank her for her service. (Applause.)

At this juncture, Chair Woods announced a break in tradition and yielded the floor the Commissioner Prochazka.

Whereupon, it was moved by Commissioner Prochazka with support from Commissioners Everman and Collins, to approve a third MAC Award of Excellence for 2008, to be awarded to Ms. Burris at the next Commission meeting.

Prior to a vote, Chairman Woods commented that Ms. Burris had always made her feel special—more special, she thought than the other commissioners. She later realized that all the Commissioners were treated equally special. “She does everything to keep the commissioners involved and informed,” she stated. She thanked Ms. Burris and presented her with a card. She called for a vote on the motion to present the MAC Award of Excellence to Barbara Burris at the next meeting. By unanimous voice vote, the MOTION CARRIED. (Applause.)

Continuing with his report, Director Abent paid tribute to the outgoing Chair of the Commission, Ms. Joyce Woods. He observed that the Commission has had many high-energy, visionary chairs over the past decade, “but Chair Woods has brought that to a new level.” The Chair was, he stated, engaged in every aspect of the funding dilemma in the Legislature; she provided enthusiasm and moral support. He called on the Chair to join him at the podium where he presented with a walnut plaque with gavel. (Applause)

The Chair spoke of her appreciation. She has lived in Michigan for ten years and enjoyed every minute of her aviation activities. She credited Commissioner Adams, who saw her at a Michigan Air Tour, with her becoming an Aeronautics Commissioner. She added she had learned a lot about the workings of aviation through the Commission. She advised that the September 17 meeting would be her last, as she would be moving out of state. The State of Michigan, she opined, is fortunate to have the Bureau of Aeronautics, the MAAE, MBAA, and all of the people who work to make things happen. She lamented about not having been able to see the funding issue resolved, as she had hoped to be a party to that. She wished the Commissioners all the luck in making that happen. She praised the leadership of the bureau and the terrific network of airport managers. She promised to come back the “Fly Michigan.” (Applause.)

Director Abent thanked all the members of the commission for their support through a difficult year.

Continuing, the Director advised that Ms. Burris’ duties would be transferred over to Lorraine White, his executive assistant. He asked Ms. White to stand and be recognized. (Applause.)

The Chair thanked Director Abent and then called on Commissioner James Collins, Chair of the Nominating Committee, to present the nominations for Chairman and Vice Chairman for the upcoming year.

ELECTIONS

(Reading:) “Article IV of the Michigan Aeronautics Commission Bylaws requires that the Commission elect annual from its membership a chairperson and vice chairperson for a term of one year. In accordance with Article IV, and pursuant to agreement from the members of the Nominating Committee, comprised of Commissioners Terry Everman and myself, I hereby propose the following nominations for the offices of chairperson and vice chairperson of the Michigan Aeronautics Commission for the term beginning October 1, 2008:”

“For the Office of Chair, Commissioner Sidney Adams, Jr.; and for the Office of Vice Chair, Commissioner Terry Everman.”

The Chair entertained follow-up comments and/or questions. Hearing none, she entertained a motion to approve the nominations.

Whereupon Commissioner Prochazka moved to close the nominations and vote on the nominations as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioners Hank and Fedewa. By unanimous voice vote, the MOTION CARRIED.

Chair Woods passed the gavel to Chairman-elect Sidney Adams, with congratulations. (Applause.) Chairman-elect Adams gaveled the meeting to a close.

The next meeting of the Aeronautics Commission is scheduled for November 19, 2008, in Lansing.

At approximately 11:00 a.m., the meeting adjourned.

Director

Chair

Date